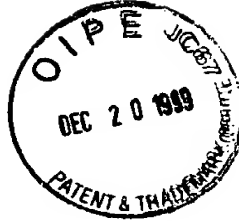


Serial No.: 09/039,927  
Filed: March 16, 1998



In the claims:

Please cancel Claims 1-17 without prejudice and add the following claim.

*B. J. H. C. 17*

--18. A method for screening for agents that inhibit the activity of a Kir3.0 channel, the method comprising:

- combining a candidate agent with a functional Kir3.0 channel under conditions that permit inward K<sup>+</sup> current;
- determining the induced current;
- wherein a reduction in said induced current in the presence of said agent as compared to a control is indicative that said agent inhibits the activity of a Kir3.0 channel.--

REMARKS

In response to the restriction requirement, Applicants elect Group II, Claim 17. Claim 17 has been canceled and Claim 18 added. This amendment contains no new matter. Entry is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

FLEHR HOHBACH TEST  
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Date: 12/16/99

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